

Message Text

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SUBJ: EXCHANGES: PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS FOR 1974-1976

STATE FOR CU/CP, CU/EE, EUR/SES; USIA FOR IEE.

REF: (A) STATE 171959, (B) MOSCOW 14021, (C) MOSCOW 14940,
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1. DECEMBER 6 GOSKONTSERT DEPDIRECTOR GOLOVIN DISCUSSED
WITH EMBOFF PROJECTED EXCHANGE OF PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS
FOR 1974-1976. HE LISTED THE FOLLOWING GROUPS BASED ON
INFORMATION GATHERED DURING HIS RECENT TALKS IN USA:

U.S GROUPS

1974

1. OPRYLAND (OR COUNTRY MUSIC GROUP

2. ROGER WAGNER CHORALE

3. ROBERT JOFFERY BALLET

SUNYA CHILDREN'S THEATER (OUTSIDE AGREEMENT)

SOVIET GROUPS

1974

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1. KIROV BALLET
2. MOISEYEV DANCERS
3. BALLET GROUP LED BY PLISETSKAYA
4. GEORGIAN DANCERS
5. VARIETY SHOW MOSCOW CENTRAL CHILDREN'S THEATER (OUTSIDE AGR.)
SOVIET BALLET ON ICE (A OUTSIDE AGREEMENT)

U.S. GROUP

1975

4. DRAMATIC THEATER

5. GROUP OF SINGERS

6. HOLIDAY ON ICE

SOVIET GROUPS

1975

6. BOLSHOI THEATER-OPERA AND BALLET

7. CIRCUS

8. BARSHAI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (ALSO POSSIBLY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
LED BY SVETLANOV AND ANOTHER GROUP, NOT SPECIFIED, BOTH
OUTSIDE AGN)

1976 US GROUP

7. CHICAGO SYMPHONY

8. DANCE GROUP

9. MUSICAL
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10. PERHAPS ANOTHER GROUP OF SINGERS

SOVIET GROUPS

1976

9. DRAMATIC THEATER

10. FOLK MUSIC CONCERT GROUP

2. GOLOVIN REQUEST DECISION ONE WAY OR OTHER ASAP ON OPRYLAND AND HOLIDAY ON ICE. RE EMBASSY'S OPINION OF OPRYLAND SEE REFTELS (C) AND (D)). EMBASSY BELIEVES HOLIDAY ON ICE COULD COME OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT IN 1975 BUT NOT AS ONE OF TEN MAJOR PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS FOR 1974-1976. GOLOVIN HAS NOTED THAT SOVIET SIDE PLANS SEND TWO MAJOR GROUPS OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT IN 1974 AND POSSIBLY TWO IN 1975. HE INVITED US SIDE TO SEND MORE IF WE WANT TO.

3. EMBASSY MAIN CONCERN DURING THESE NEXT THREE YEARS WILL BE FOR TEN TOP-QUALITY PRESENTATIONS TO REPRESENT THE BEST IN AMERICAN CULTURE DURING THIS PERIOD OF EVOLVING US-USSR RELATIONS. IT IS THESE TEN GROUPS ON WHICH THE EMBASSY WILL HAVE CONTRACTS WITH GOSKONTSERT AND TO WHICH WE SHALL GIVE MAXIMUM SUPPORT THROUGH ALL POSSIBLE CHANNELS INTO SOVIET SOCIETY. EMBASSY ENCOURAGES OTHER GROUPS OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT. THESE COULD HAVE CONTRACTS DIRECTLY WITH GOSKONTSERT, SUCH AS THAT BETWEEN HOI AND GOSK IN 1973. EMBASSY FORESEES ITS ROLE AS MINIMAL WITH THESE GROUPS, ASIDE FROM REPRESENTATIONAL AND PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES WHEN DESIRABLE. EMBASSY NEEDS, HOWEVER, TO BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT THESE GROUPS AND MUST GIVE INITIAL CLEARANCE INCLUDING CLEARANCE OF DATE OF VISIT.

4. DEPT REQUESTED CLARIFY WHAT IS ON DRAWING BOARD FOR 1975 AND 1976. WE CONCUR IN PRINCIPLE DRAMATIC THEATER GROUP AND SYMPHONY. FOR 1975, BESIDES THE THEATER, AS THE OTHER TWO MAJOR GROUPS WE WOULD RECOMMEND A POPULAR SINGING GROUP SUCH AS ROBERTA FLACK PLUS BACK-UP MUSICIANS, AND SMALL TO MEDIUM-SIZE CLASSICAL MUSIC PRESENTATION SUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS MUSIC FROM MARLBORO OR BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS. EMBASSY PLACES HIGH PRIORITY ON HIGH-QUALITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OR ENSEMBLE WHICH COULD INCLUDE IN REPERTOIRE CONTEMPORARY US CLASSICAL MUSIC.MELENCCAMP

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